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The
KALIFORNSKI

NEWSLETTER OF THE YUGOSLAV-AMERICAN CULTURAL ORGANIZATION - NO. 7 - Jan. 1980
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EDITOR: Andy Gulermovich - 758-6252
ASSOCIATES: John (Ivo) Basor - 724-2169 and Susan Solano - 724-1731

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

by
Patricia (Gospodnetich) Solano

RESOLUTIONS

Another year has faded into the past and we are issued a new one in which to repair our broken resolutions.

Resolutions is a word synonymous with New Year. It seems at the end of a year all of the knowledge and good intentions come to mind as to what we should have done but didn't do. Too bad the wisdom comes to us so late.

A resolution is simply an illusion. It's a flight of fancy, an "if" that never really comes to be or so it seems. We make promises to do things differently because we've learned something from the past year but how many of us actually live up to our resolutions? Not many.

Why make empty promises? Why not simply examine ourselves and our direction and purpose in life. From there we determine what our life is to be, what we hope to give to it and what we desire in return. You are the navigator. You are the builder. You are the designer of your future.

If you think only of your wants and needs, it won't be difficult to plan, but if you want to include those you must share this life with, then it becomes just a bit more trying. To make it easier, simply think of others as having your feelings. They hurt, they cry, they are happy, they laugh. If you are aware of this feeling, this mutual, human feeling, then it won't have to be too difficult in the

cont'd. on page 5

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****

Hear Ye! Hear Ye!

Meeting

WHEN: January 6, 1980 at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: VFW Hall, 1960 Freedom Blvd. Freedom, CA. (no stairs!)

WHO: YACO members, friends, relatives, and anyone interested.

WHY: Business meeting and program

PROGRAM: Babe Hill will narrate a slide presentation on THE FOLK COSTUMES OF CROATIA. The slides are in vivid color and the men's and women's costumes are breathtakingly beautiful! All of the regions of Croatia are represented including the Dalmatian coastal and island areas. This is truly something you won't want to miss. Refreshments will be served.

NOTE: As this is a business meeting, feel free to participate. Bring up any topic or subject that you feel is of interest. Remember! It's your club!



DON'T MISS IT!

Slavs of the Pajaro Valley:

The following is a reprint of a 5-part series done by Ward Bushee of the Watsonville Register-Parjaronian. The series started on June 3, 1968. THE KALIFORNSKI is grateful to Frank Orr and the staff of the Pajaronian for allowing us to run it in our newsletter. As the series is a lengthy one, THE KALIFORNSKI will run Parts 1 & 2 in this issue, and Parts 3 & 4 in the February issue and Part 5 in the March issue.

It's difficult if not impossible to bring to life in an article of this nature the robust personality and character of the Yugoslavs, whose traits are as distinctive in their own way as are those of the Irish and other nationalities with strong characteristics. Anecdotes of their business rivalries, or of their skill at not letting go their money are as numerous as they are funny, and the Slavs are the first to delight in them.

At this writing, only a few of the early immigrants are still alive. Gradually, the use of "they" to describe the Slavs in the Pajaro Valley is fading out. "They" are becoming "we" as the later generations blend more and more into the American community.

This, then, is an attempt to capture some of the early history of the South Slavs in the Pajaro Valley. Up to now, nothing has been written about this, and the writer hopes this will prove to be a start. By way of apology in advance, it was impossible to include the names of all the Slav families-they now number in the hundreds-or even all the "important" ones. Instead, he wrote mainly of the early families, and even there, may have been remiss.

The writer will be only too glad to hear from readers who may want to draw on their family histories to add to this record, or who may want to correct an impression or fact.

* * *

The Yankees came earliest, then the Irish, and the Germans and Danes and Portuguese and Italians and others; but it was a small group of men whose families were neighbors on the Adriatic coast nearly halfway around the world who succeeded more than most.

These were the Slavs, South Slavs (Yugo means "south") to be more exact, Dalmatians to be most exact, who were clustered in the Dubrovnik area along the south coast, and who arrived in the Pajaro Valley, on the coast 90 miles miles south of San Francisco, around the turn of the century, and came to dominate the economic structure of their adopted community even before their sons and grandsons came of age. Of peasant blood, stocky and round of face, they arrived as a rule still in their teens, cast off from their families and homeland by the strains of poverty, uneducated, broke, and unable to speak the common language of their adopted land.



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But working in their favor was their knowledge of the soil, a centuries-old heritage. They were farmers first of all. The rich Pajaro Valley, a prolific producer of crops since the early 1850s, seemed to hunger for their attention. The marriage of this bountiful land and the tireless and even devoted labor of the immigrants proved to be a profitable and enduring one.

Jack London visited the valley in the early part of the century, and was moved to write about it. In "The Valley of the Moon," one of his characters (Benson) cries out to another as they near the Pajaro Valley from the east: "I'll show you what can be done with soil- and not by cow-college graduates but by uneducated foreigners that the high and mighty American has always sneered at... It's one of the most wonderful demonstrations in the state."

London mentions the names of Scurich (Luke) and Lettunich(Mateo), and those names as Bachan, Franich, Marinovich, Resetar, Secondo, Madesko, Pista, Borina, Stolich and Vukasovich, all of whom figure in the 1968 agricultural picture in the Pajaro Valley. There are also more than 200 inhabitants of the Parajo Valley today alone who are Scuriches or who are related to the Scurich family.

It is reliably believed that the Yugoslavs and their children today are owners of or control at least a third of land and property both in the city of Watsonville and in the surrounding countryside. This wealth is all out of proportion to their numbers.

In short, the peasant stem, jerked out of the barren soil of the Dalmatian homeland and transplanted to the fertile farmlands of the Pajaro Valley, has grown healthy and bloomed profusely.

PART II

There is a story relished by the Yugoslavs (who are great storytellers) of the Irishman and Slav who were comparing notes, the Irishman bragging that his people came over before the Slavs did. "Yes," replied the Slav. "Your people were hungry first."

As mentioned, most of the Dalmatians who settled in the Pajaro Valley came from the area near Dubrovnik, a former city-state nestled on the Adriatic coast. Dalmatia extends along the eastern shore of the Adriatic, and is narrow and long like California (although much smaller which it somewhat resembles in climate and landscape, and is pupulated largely by Croats, who are Roman Catholics.

Yugoslavia is a land blooded down through the centureis by repeated invasions, the wars and factional strife arising from religious, ethnic and geographical differences. The history of Dalmatia, which is only 233 miles long and 45 miles wide at its widest point, extends back to before the Roman Empire, to which it contributed an emperor or two. In the fifth century, the Huns and Goths invaded what was then the western part of the Roman Empire, and the Slavs overran Dalmatia at the end of the sixth centuries which accounts for the fact that Dalmatians today are Slav while their Italian neighbors across the Adriatic are Latin. Dubrovnik (Ragusa) was a city-state from the 10th century on, and in the first half of the 17th century was an intellectual center, producing artists, poets, and writers,

(cont'd next page)

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(cont'd from page 3)

Napoleon conquered Dubrovnik in 1807, and in 1815 Dubrovnik and Dalmatia were assigned to Austria and were ruled from Vienna until World War I, more than 100 years later.

In the years that the flow of Yugoslavs began to California, there had been a surging nationalism in the face of foreign rule and oppression. The Croat national party sought union with Croatia to the northeast, still ruled by Hungary. In 1870, when Yugoslavs gained a measure of influence in the diet (parliament), the Serbo-Croat language came into use in the schools, and conditions improved somewhat. This was the period, too, when the biggest exodus began, and 67,000 persons left Dalmatia in the 30 years before 1914, perhaps 10 per cent of the population.

Out of the bitterness of the negotiations following World War I emerged the kingdom of Yugoslavia. Dalmatia nearly was left under the control of Italy until a compromise in 1920 gave it to Yugoslavia. When World War II began and Yugoslavia capitulated to Nazi Germany, Dalmatia was handed over to Italy, although liberated areas throughout the country were controlled by partisans during the war. Afterward, Yugoslavia was declared a federal republic, and Dalmatia became a part of Croatia.

Against this tapestry was woven in the last century the pattern of growing poverty and hardship, resulting in the exodus to the United States. The difficult decision to send sons away, maybe never to be seen again, was made against the harsh backdrop of overpopulation, of high taxes, and poverty-level income, the latter resulting in part from the breakup of the zadruga (household cooperative) which led to excessive subdivision of land into plots too small to farm profitably. As one Dalmatian reconstructs it today, it was father pointing to his sons in the family circle, crying, "Go, go, go, you, you... go to America."

But, there were other factors. A big one was the desire to escape compulsory military service in the Austrian army; political unrest at home and foreign rule added weight to the incentive to leave, while the promise of opportunity abroad, enhanced by letters from countrymen already in the U.S., and the prospect of a new life in a new land put excitement into the eyes of the young would-be emigrants.

Yugoslavs settled in many places in the United States. In the East, along with other European immigrants, they labored long hours for low wages in the mines, smelters, and steel mills.

Watsonville Slavs frequently refer to themselves as Slavonians. Such is not the case, since only people from the Yugoslavian province of Slavonia can rightfully do so. The misuse of the word is so deeply ingrained in the l

(cont'd page 5)

(cont'd from page 4)
language, it's doubtful reforms could be made.

Others came to California, and those with fishing skills congregated in San Pedro where they built a fishing industry. Still others took a liking to San Franciso, and names like Tadich (restaurant) are familiar to us today. It was only a short way from San Francisco to Watsonville and the Pajaro Valley.
(Part III & IV cont'd next month)

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Welcome New Members

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE cont'd.

planning or simply living this new year and every day thereafter. Then there is no real need to make resolutions and disappoint yourself when you fail to keep them.

Being considerate of others is the key to a good life. That is not an illusion but a reality. Kindness and consideration don't cost a fortune nor do they take so much effort. Living a life of kindness and consideration is in itself a fortune that we can all afford to leave behind for those who shall remain when we are gone.

Be good to each other and remember, we are all mutually one so be good to yourself as well.

On behalf of YACO I wish you all Good Health and Happiness in the coming year and always.
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ORCHIDS & ACCOLADES
by
Babe Hill



ORCHIDS: To Lucille Coxon for her never-ending kitchen help, when we were in need.
ORCHIDS: To Catherine Cikuth for her handmade articles she donated to our potluck raffle. Lucky winner!
ORCHIDS & ACCOLADES: To Irene Strazicich, Ann Rowland, The Nick Derpiches, The Pete Biskups, and Stella Van Diver for their raffle donations!
ORCHIDS & ACCOLADES: To the Antone Basich family for their loan of a Christmas tree! Beautiful!
SPECIAL ACCOLADES: To Joe Nanut and Rudi Troya for music that helped greatly in making our potluck a success!
SPECIAL ACCOLADES: To Santa Claus (Đed Mraz) for making his appearance a joy to all, young and old. (Thanks Jerry Gospodnetich!)
SPECIAL ACCOLADES: To Andy Gulermovich for his November lecture and slides, and what a great hit his telephone book has been (Dubrovnik)!
SPECIAL ORCHIDS & ACCOLADES: To all the talented members who came early to set up the tables and chairs and who decorated the tree, tables and hall for the Christmas Potluck. What a beautiful job!
****

SERBO-CROAT

GRAMMAR CORNER
by
Nevenka Novcich

SVAKODNEVNI IZRAZI - EVERYDAY EXPRESSIONS

Što/Šta ima novog?	What's new?
Ništa	Nothing.
To je sve.	That is all.
Sve zajedno.	All together.
Je li u redu?	Is it alright?
Nije u redu.	It's not alright.
Budite tako dobri!	Be so kind. Please.
Žao mi je.	I'm sorry.
Kako vam se svidja/dopada škola?	How do you like school?
Meni se veoma svidja/dopada škola.	I like school very much.
Živio/Živeo nas profesor!	Long live our professor!
Živjeli/Živeli!	Cheers!
Sretno/Srećno!	Good luck!

Sretna vam svima Nova Godina i mnogo, mnogo uspjeha u njoj!

Do vidjenja!

(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)(*)



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Recipe

THESE PEOPLE KNOW FOOD

GRILLED MEAT BALLS - ČEVAPČIĆI

2 lbs. minced beef
1 tbls. salt and pepper
Finely chopped onions (optional)

For ČEVAPČIĆI, according to connoisseurs four kinds of beef must be used: from the neck, breast, shoulder, flank. But his is not imperative. Mince the meat, place it in a deep dish, salt and knead like dough. Mince again. CEVAPCICI are much better and more tasty if the meat is minced and kneaded 3-4 times. ČEVAPČIĆI are cylindrical in form, a little less than 1 inch in diameter and almost 2 inches in length. They are formed either by hand or with the aid of a special device which is attached to the mincing machine. Then they are placed on the grill and turned in order to grill them on all sides. It takes approximately 15 minutes to grill ČEVAPČIĆI.

BE BOLD! Ground lamb, pork, or veal can be added or substituted to the above recipe to a total of 2 lbs. of ground meat.

ENJOY!



SPORTS
IN
YUGOSLAVIA
by
John (Ivo) Basor

With the win over Dinamo in SARAJEVO, the SARAJEVO'S soccer players became the soccer Fall champions of Yugoslavia. In the last round of the first part of the championship of the country, the following scores were achieved:

PARTIZAN - HAJDUK	3-0
ČELIK-BUDUCNOST	3-0
[illegible]REDAK-VARDAR	0-0
RIJEKA-RADNIČKI	0-0

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Head Smoker - Pete Scurich

Asst. Smoker - Nick Scurich



PULA, The »Arena«

(Soccer cont'd)

SARAJEVO-DINAMO	4-2
SLOBODA-ŽELJEZNIČAR	3-1
VELEŽ-OLIMPIJA	0-0
OSIJEK-CRVENA ZVEZDA	1-1
BORAC-VOJVODINA	1-1

SAREJEVO has 23 points. In the second and third place are RADNIČKI and CRVENA ZVEZDA with a point less. In the fourth place is HAJDUK with 21 points.

At the end of the Fall part of the championship in the Second League in the Eastern Group-on the top it's GALENIKA and in the Western Group it's SPARTAK.
(correction from last month's paper)
In Yugoslavia there is only one soccer championship of the First League.



RIJEKA, Trsat Castle

Serbian Rulers

SERBIAN MEDIEVAL RULERS

c. 850 ..... Vlastimir, ruler of Zeta and Rashka.
1025 ..... Stephen Voislav, King of Zeta.
c.1090 ..... Bodin, King of Zeta
1190-96 .... Stephen Nemanya, Grand Zupan of Rashka.

SERBIAN KINGS

1196-1228 ... Stepehn the First-Crowned
1228-34 ... Stephen Radoslav
1234-43 ... Stephen Vladislav
1243-76 ... Stephen Urosh 1.
1276-1316 ... Stephen Dragutin, joint king after 1282.
1282-1321 ... Stephen Urosh 11. (Miliutin) (practically sole King)
1322-31 (... Stephen Urosh 111., rex veteranus.
(... Stephen Dushan, rex iuvenis.
1331-55 ... Stephen Dushan, Emperor of Serbs and Romans.
1355-71 ... Stephen Urosh, Emperor
(Marko Kraljevitch, King of Prilep, d. 1394.
Knez Lazar, King of North Serbia d. 1389.)

SERBIAN MODERN RULERS

1804-13 .... Kara George, Supreme Chief.
1817-39 ... *Milosh (first time).
1839 ... *Milan.
1839-42 ... *Michael (first time).
1842-59 ... Alexander Karageorgevitch
1859-60 ... *Milosh (restored)
1860-68 ... *Michael (restored)
1868-72 ... Regency.

KINGS

1868-89 ... *Milan (King from 1882).

(Kings cont'd)
1889-93 ... Regency.
1889-1903 .. *Alexander, last of Obrenovitches.
1903 ... Peter Karageorgevitch
1914 ... Regent, Crown Prince Alexander Karageorgevitch.

(*Obrenovitch line)

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Slav Missionaries

We here in California are all familiar with the Franciscan missionaries who founded and developed the California chain of missions. Father Junipero Serra first arrived in California in 1769. He had been sent to California by his superiors to complete the work begun earlier by Jesuit priests.

Who were these Jesuits who preceded Father Serra? One of them was a Baron Ivan Rataj, a Croatian Jesuit who did missionary work amongst the Indians of New Mexico. Father Rataj died in 1683 some 86 years before Junipero Serra arrived. Rataj was

(cont'd on page 9)

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(Slav Missionaries cont'd)
followed by another Croatian Jesuit, Father Konscak (better known by the Spanish adaption of his surname Gonzales). Konscak worked tirelessly among the Indian populations along the lower Pacific Coast of North America and is credited with the drawing of the first map of Lower California. These 2 Jesuits helped pave the way for Junipero Serra's accomplishments.

Another great Croatian missionary was Josip Kundek. He arrived in America in 1838 and founded many parishes and towns in the Midwest, among them Jasper and Ferdinand, Indiana.

Slovenian missionaries were sent to the Great Lakes regions. The most notable was a Father F. Baraga who arrived in 1831. After 22 years of outstanding work among the Indians of the Upper Peninsula in Michigan, Baraga was elevated to Bishop of the new See in Michigan. Later the state of Michigan named one of its counties in his honor.

There were many Slovenian missionaries who followed Baraga to America to work among the Indians. No less than 4 of them were also elevated to Bishop while working in America.

1) Ignatius Mark arrived in 1845 and was named a Bishop in 1869.

2) Ivan Vertin came in 1863 and was made a Bishop in 1879.

3) 1864 saw the arrival of Jacob Trobec who was consecrated a Bishop in 1897 in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

4) The last of these outstanding Slovenes was an Ivan Stariha who arrived in 1867 and became a Bishop in 1902 in Lead, South Dakota.

Interestingly, these missionaries were at first supported from contributions from their native Slovenia. Can't you just imagine collection baskets being passed among parishoners in the Slovenian churches with the priests exhorting the faithful to be generous in their donations for the support of the Indian missions in America!

As you can see, Yugoslav missionaries played a role in the exploration and development of America along with countless other groups and nationalities. -

about books

YACO member, Pete Gulermovich, forwarded to THE KALIFORNSKI a letter he received. There is a man in Los Angeles who has spent over 30 years studying the noted Yugoslav inventor, Nikola Tesla. He has in his possession several extra books that he is willing to sell to interested parties. The books range in price from $8.95 to $10. For further information write, Nick Basura, 3414 Alice St., Los Angeles, CA 90065.

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Building Fund

The YACO Executive Board at its meeting on December 9, 1979, authorized the establishing of a YACO Building Fund. We are not so naive as to think that anything so momentous can be realized in the near future, but as the ancient Chinese proverb says, "The journey of 1,000 miles begins with one step." We'll start the steps and maybe someday.....

°#°

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Some People!

Some people get telephone jitters, especially when the telephone call is from Yugoslavia. A niece of Babe (Brautovich) Hill was traveling in Yugoslavia recently and located Babe's first cousin at the airport in Dubrovnik. Her niece placed a call from the airport in Dubrovnik to Babe in Watsonville. When her cousin (non-English speaking) got on the line, Babe's jitters started. Babe, after living in Watsonville for some 40 years plus - being raised in a Slav speaking home, and studying Serbo-Croatian for 2 years in night school, couldn't even remember how to say "Kako si" to her cousin. I guess it's back to the books. Right Babe? Remember, the next time you get a call from Yugoslavia, it's "K-A-K-O S-I".

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Our Sincere Thanks

YACO would like to thank the following local merchants for the items that they donated to us for our Christmas potluck's raffle and auction:

Many thanks to:

1) Art Galassi of Pajaro Food Center for the $20 gift certificate.

2) Charles Ford Co. for the beautiful decorator weather station.

3) El Pajaro Gardens for the $10 gift certificate.

4) The Proud Puppy for the $10 gift certificate.

5) Central Electric for the Dimitron dimmer switch.

6) And a gigantic and heartfelt thank you to YACO member NICK BRAUTOVIC of Modesto, who donated cases of Wesson Oil, tomatoes, peaches, and sparkling wine. As we didn't have enough of these items to give one of each to everyone, we decided to have a "Country Store" and to sell these items at a substantial discount to our potluck attendees. The results were overwhelming! YACO realized a $48 gain to its treasury and our members got a great buy! This isn't the first time that NICK has donated things to YACO. Again, thanks very much NICK and all.

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REMEMBER A FRIEND TODAY!

LIBRARY

(This article was published in the Register Pajaronian December 13, 1979 and with the appreciation of YACO we are pleased and proud to reprint with thanks to the Register Pajaronian)

YUGOSLAVIAN BOOKS GIVEN TO LIBRARY

One of the Pajaro Valley's major population groups-those with roots in Yugoslavia-was honored Thursday in a ceremony at the Watsonville Public Library.

A collection of 60 books by Yugoslav authors and about the history, art, culture, architecture, and scenery of the republic of Croatia was presented to the library by the senior Yugoslav diplomat of the area on behalf of his country.

Božidar Ristić, consul general in San Francisco of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, made the presentation. Receiving the book collection on behalf of Watsonville were the Rev. Sumio Koga, for the library board; Patricia Solano, president of the Yugoslav American Cultural Organization; and Mayor Bill Johnston.

"This is the first, but it will not be the last," said Ristić. "There are five more republics and two autonomous regions in Yugoslavia, and I hope we can find collections from at least three or four more, although most of your good Americans of Yugoslav origin are Croatians, from the republic represented here today." Ristić was accompanied by Blagoje Kerkez, Yugoslav consul in San Francisco.

§*

Thank you

In regard to the presentation of books to the library on Thursday, we would like to, on behalf of YACO, thank all who attended the ceremony and especially to Mrs. Seely Sumpf for her enthusiasm in receiving these books and for being so kind and helpful in setting up a Yugoslav Cultural Center in the local library. Thank you all.

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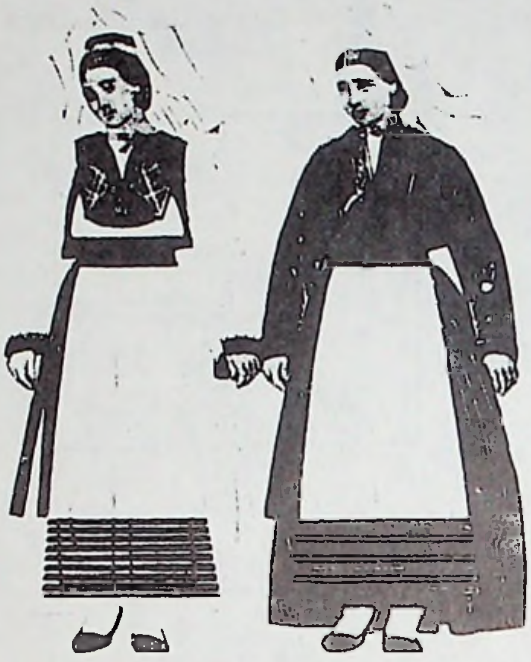
Einstein's Wife

Albert Einstein (1879-1955), the great scientist and originator of the theory of relativity, was married to a Mileva Marić on January 6, 1903. She was a Serbian girl from Novi Sad, now the capital of Vojvodina. Mileva Marić, herself a brilliant mathematician, worked with her famous husband on his theory of relativity. Einstein divorced her and went on to win the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1922. Even though divorced at the time of the award, Einstein paid his ex-wife great tribute by publicly acknowledging her contributions and by sharing the prize money with her. Einstein and Mileva Marić's elder son, Hans Albert Einstein, was a professor of hydraulics at a California university as of 1971.

+&+

KEEP IN TOUCH!!!!

We are proud of the birthplaces





BROTNJICE, Mediaeval tombstone

Konavli Valley

by
Andy Gulermovich

The KONAVOSKO POLJE or Konavli Valley is the birthplace of the majority of the Yugoslav families of the Pajaro Valley. The valley is situated slightly inland some 15 miles south of Dubrovnik. The valley itself is roughly 13 miles long and around 1-1/2 miles wide. Miles of vineyards line the roads and the highways that run through the valley. Near harvest time, it is not difficult to smell the ripening grapes. There are many Pajaro Valley Slavs who find it greatly

(Konavli cont'd)
similar to the Pajaro Valley. Its fertility, size, and proximity to the sea, make their argument most convincing.

The Ljuta River is the richest stream in the valley. Most of the villages are situated on the slopes surrounding the valley with the notable exception of Čilipi, Gruda, and Pločica. The eastern side of the Konavli is rimmed by the rugged South Hercegovinan Mountains.

The Byzantine emperor, Constantine VII (912-959 A.D.), mentions in his writings that the Konavli Valley was an independent administrative unit from 950 A.D. After the decline of the Byzantine Empire, it came under various Serbian and Bosnian rulers until it became part of the Republic of Dubrovnik in 1419.

Ancient cave finds and prehistorical burial mounds have been found in various parts of the valley. In Pridvorje a Neolithic axe was discovered. Near the coast in Lolunat, there are ruins of a Roman theatre and several prehistoric burial mounds. There are several old cemeteries dotted throughout the valley which date back to the Middle Ages. At Brotnjice, one can still see a richly ornamented tombstone in the cemetery.

Between the villages of Dunave and Dubravka, there are the ruins of a medieval castle which was presented to the Republic of Dubrovnik by Count Sankoviči in 1391. Although today Gruda is the administrative center of the Konvli Valley, the village of Pridvorje was its center during the heyday of the Dubrovnik Republic. Pridvorje is the sight of an old Franciscan monestary dating back to the 1400's.

In the northern part of the valley is the village of Čilipi. Every Sunday morning in the village square in front of St. Nicholas there is a folk festival. The village townspeople display hand embroidered blouses, tablecloths, placemats and other linens. The morning is capped off

(cont'd page 13)

(Konvli cont'd)
th singing and dancing. Resplendent in the colorful Konavli costumes, dancers accompanied by musicians, perform their traditional folk dances. If you are ever in the Dubrovnik area, Cilipi is a "must see" on Sunday mornings.

Mocici, at the extreme northern end of the valley, is the sight of Dubrovnik's modern international airport. Other villages in the Konavli Valley include Komaji, Popovici, Radovici, Plocice, Mikalici, Ljuta, Krajinje, Lovorno, Kuna, Mihanici, and Drvenik. As there are over 30 villages in the valley, I may have left yours out. If I did, please let me know.

No article on the Konavli Valley would be complete without mentioning the beauty of the valley people, especially the young women. Some modern ethnoligists claim to be able to detect classic Roman "patrician" features in the women. Much has been written of their beauty and they are reputed to be the most beautiful in oslavia. (Those of us from other areas might quarrel with this). At any rate, a trip to the Konavli Valley will, I am sure, convince you of its beauty and that of its people.

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SUNSHINE COMMITTEE

Remember we have a Sunshine Committee with Babe Hill in charge. She has been really great in remembering members and their families in time of need and in time of celebration with cards etc. If you know of someone who is recovering from an illness or someone who is celebrating an occasion, please drop Babe a line c/o P.O. BOX 226, Watsonville, CA 95076 and she will be glad to drop them a card to suit the occasion.

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TELL A FRIEND ABOUT YACO!!!

Yugoslav Radio Hour

Be sure and listen to the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR every Sunday at 9:35 a.m. at 1340 on your dial, that's radio station KOMY. The producers and hosts are YACO members, Andy and Ann Soldo. They will gladly play any request that you wish. Call or write the Soldos c/o Station KOMY, 40 Atkinson Lane, Watsonville, CA 95076. They will play any request whether it be birthday, anniversary or any special announcement. This program is one of the most important links with the Yugoslav community and we strongly urge you to support the YUGOSLAV RADIO HOUR. The music is most enjoyable and the Soldos bring us the latest as well as old favorites from Yugoslavia.

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FOLK DANCING

The next meeting of YACO's folk dancing class will be on Monday, January 14, 1980, at E.A. Hall School cafeteria. The class will start at 7:00 p.m. and will conclude at 9:00 p.m. the class is being taught by Lesley Robertson of Pacific Grove. Lesley is a real pro, having studied under several dance masters in Yugoslavia. The class is progressing very well. It has been proven that anyone with two left feet (yes it has) can learn to dance under the tutelage of Lesley.

Why not join. It's great for keeping in shape and it's lots of fun. Bring the kids. Lesley says that the appropriate age for anyone to learn to dance is somewhere between 2 and 80. For further information, contact Naida Nicholas at 724-9211.

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SMILE!! IT'S CONTAGIOUS!!!!

Dates to Remember

JAN. 6, 1980	Business meeting VFW Hall in Freedom, 7 p.m., program will be slides narrated by Babe Hill of colorful folk costumes of Croatia
JAN. 14, 1980	Yugoslav Folk Dance Class at E.A. Hall School Cafeteria 7-9 p.m.
FEB. 3, 1980	Valentine and Anniversary Potluck VFW Hall, Freedom 4-8 p.m. more information will follow next month.
FEB. 11, 1980	Yugoslav Folk Dance Class, E.A. Hall School Cafeteria 7-9 p.m.
JULY 4, 1980	FIRST ANNUAL YACO 4th OF JULY PICNIC at Corralitos Padres Hall in Corralitos.

SAVE THESE DATES FOR YACO

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!!!!! ATTENTION !!!!!

Readers of the Kalifornski.

We currently have over 100 families who are YACO members. Included in their family dues is a free subscription to THE KALIFORNSKI. In the interest of attracting new members we have gleaned around 600 Yugoslav surnames from the Santa Cruz County telephone directory. Each month we are sending our newsletter to 200 Yugoslav surnamed people who are not members of YACO in the hope that they will join us or at least subscribe to THE KALIFORNSKI. We will continue to mail to this list of 200 for a 3 month period. If at the end of that time we have not heard form them, we will move on to a different list of 200. We would truly like to send all Yugoslav surnamed people a perpetual, free copy, but unfortunately printing and postage cost prohibit it.

If you are not yet a member, why not join now? There is a membership application on the last page of this newletter. If you do not wish to join and would like to receive THE KALIFORNSKI, send us a check for $5 for a one year subscription. We recognize that the cost for a single member membership and a 1 year subscription are the same, but we honestly can't afford to send 12 issues for any less. If you join us as a single member, THE KALIFORNSKI is free. Better yet, join as a family for $10 and each person in your immediate family (children under the age of 18) becomes a member. Of course, with the family membership, THE KALIFORNSKI is also free. (What a bargain!) Won't you please join us or at least subscribe to our newsletter. DO IT TODAY!!!

The Editor

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THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Is life worth living? That depends on the liver.

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GIFT IDEA!!!!

Send a friend a subscription to THE KALIFORNSKI for a Christmas gift. What could be more enjoyable and lasting. Their first copy would be the February issue.

Think about it and then do it.

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CHRISTMAS POTLUCK

December 2, 1979 was a most joyous occasion for YACO members and their friends.

The VFW Hall was beautifully decorated as was the Christmas tree and the dinner tables.

YACO has been so fortunate in that we've had generous cooperation in every endeavor. It seems to prove that the best people belong to or are involved in YACO.

There were approximately 165 people at this affair so we do consider that all of those happy faces and the delicious array of foods proved that day to be a joyous and beautiful succes to be remembered for a long time to come.

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Our Sincere Thanks

YACO would especially like to thank A[illegible] and Ann Soldo for hosting a reception at their home on December 13, 1979 after the presentation of 60 books to the Watsonville Public Library by the Yugoslav Consulate representatives, Mr. Božidar Ristić and Mr. Blagoje Kerkez.

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HAPPY NEW YEAR

Best wishes for the New Year to my mother, Luce, my sisters, Stane Klichan, Ane Nanut, Luce Hazdovac and to their families and to all YACO members and to my friends.

John Basor

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ANNIVERSARY

Happy 49th Wedding Anniversary January 25, 1980 to Mr. and Mrs. Peter Biskup from their sons, John and Anthony and their families.

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to our son John on January 10, 1980 and to our son Anthony on January 16, 1980 from their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Biskup.

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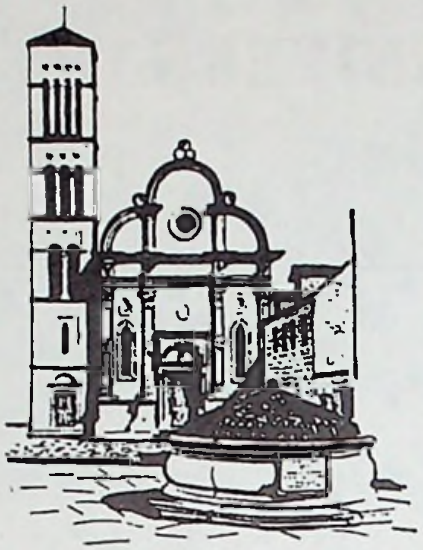
WEDDING CONGRATULATIONS

To Gita Gospodnetić and Frano Matulić from Poštira, Otok Brač who will be married on December 22, 1979 in Split. Gita is the daugher of Mr. and Mrs. Ante Gospodnetić of Poštira, Otok Brač. Best wishes are sent to the newlyweds from her family here in Watsonville, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Solano and family.

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KORČULA, The Cathedral



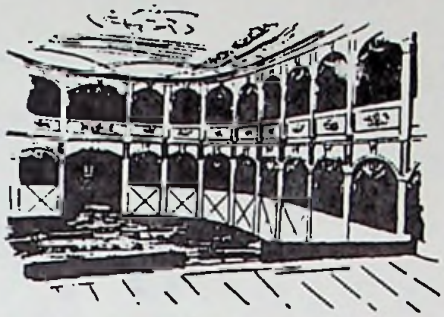
HVAR, The Cathedral

OUR TRAVELS THROUGH YUGOSLAVIA
by
Peter and Margaret Biskup

On our first two trips to Jugoslavia we didn't have a car or apartment but depended on our relatives guidance and hospitality. Of course at that time we were a novelty and they went all out for us and really enjoyed it.

In '62 automobiles were very scarce in Dubrovnik and of course none of our relatives had one so consequently we did a lot of walking. On arrival we spent the first night with my cousin, Petar Biskup in Dubrovnik and the next day we went by taxi to Maykovi about 30 miles north of Dubrovnik and composed of many settlements separated by various distances. At that time we could only get within 2 or 3 miles with a car to Prlyevicki a settlement of 7 houses where my father was born. So we walked to the Biskup hacienda where we were met and greeted with tears and laughter by the neighbors and family of my father's youngest brother, the only survivor of 5 brothers and two sisters.

Our visit to Pridvoye in the Konavle Valley, where my mother was born was a lot simpler. Vlaho Lettunich, a cousin of our



HVAR, The Theatre

local accountant "Mig" Martin Lettunich had an automobile and drove us up and down the valley for days visiting ancestral homes of many Watsonvill families and that valley is (guessing at it) about 15 miles long, and 5 miles wide. We spent a few days with my mother's family but the only survivors were her brother's widow and her youngest son's family.

In due time we sailed from Dubrovnik to Split to visit and spend some time with Margaret's mother's brother and his family. Our first venture from there was the island of Hvar where her mother was born. There is no one living there as they are keeping up the old home as a sort of summer home for various members of the family. It's situated in Starigrad and the farm is situated about a mile from town and is only partially farmed to at least produce a little vino. Starigrad is a nice, old, old town but has a couple of new hotels and a lot of new summer homes on the outskirts.

(Part II to be cont'd next month)

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Needed:
Vocalists and Instrumentalists

Contact Naida Nicholas at 724-9211

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We earnestly invite you to join the Yugoslav-American Cultural Organization (YACO). We are a non-political and on-religiously oriented group and our main purpose for organizing is to simply bring the various members of the Slavic community together for their mutual cultural enjoyment. We are very proud to have among our members Yugoslav-Americans whose families came from the Croatian, Serbian, Slovenian, Montenegren, and Bosnian Republics of modern day Yugoslavia. Our goals are as we have mentioned before, only to promote a cultural awareness and appreciation of our heritage as well as to bring Slavs and non-Slavs together in social gatherings. Our programs incluse folk dances from all regions of Yugoslavia as well as slides and movie presentations, history lectures, folk singing, language instruction, and other various cultural activities. Won't you please join us? Mail your check for a family membership ($10.00 yearly) or a single membership ($5.00 yearly) or a Social (non-worker) membership ($15.00 yearly) Ron Hill, P. O. Box 226, Watsonville, CA 95076.

We will guarantee that you'll be happy that you joined. The nicest people belong to YACO, how about you?

For your convenience we have included several application forms which you may fill out and clip, sending along with your check for same to our Treasurer. Give one to a friend.

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APPLICATION FORM

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

PHONE: _____

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: Family Single Social

INTERESTS: _____

We ask for your interests so that we might have an idea of what you would be interested in seeing or doing as our planned activities. Let us know what you would like to see or do in YACO.

(Extra form for a friend or relative)

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

PHONE: _____

TYPE MEMBERSHIP: Family Single Social

INTERESTS: _____

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No, I do not wish to join at this time but I would like to continue receiving your newsletter. I enclose $5.00 for a 1 year subscription.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

_____

WHAT KIND OF ARTICLES WOULD YOU LIKE TO READ IN THE KALIFORNSKI?

_____

_____

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CONSIDER BECOMING ONE OF OUR ADVERTISER

ALSO, YOU MAY SEND SOMEONE A MESSAGE OR GREETING IN THIS NEWLETTER FOR ONLY $2.00. OVER 300 PEOPLE ARE READING THE KALIFORNSKI - SO GET INVOLVED!

WE WILL ACCEPT ARTICLES OF INTEREST IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE THE SAME. - Send to Andy Gulermovich, 443 La Jolla Way, Salinas, CA 93901.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Even a clock that doesn't run is still right twice a day!

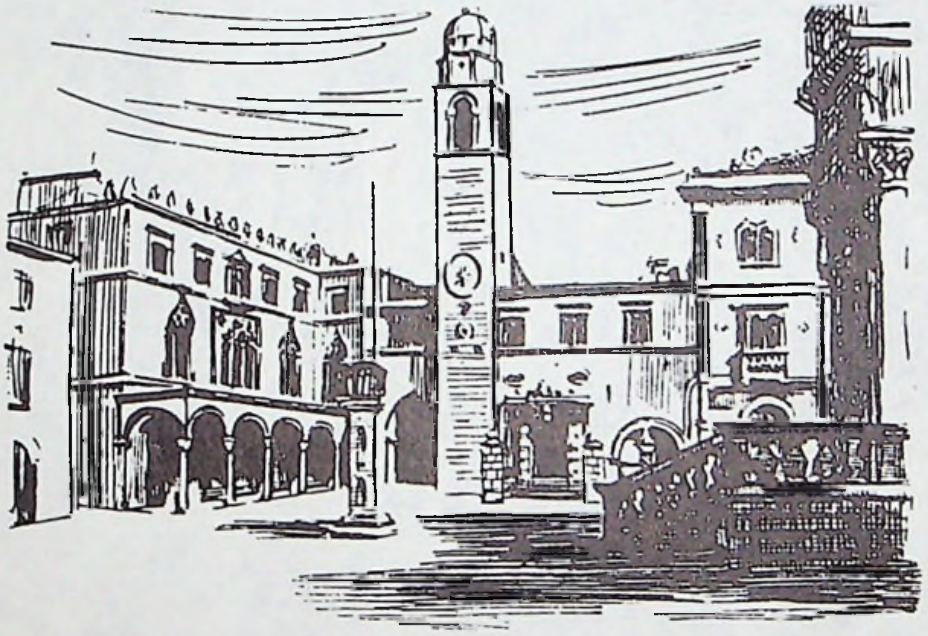
COME TO

THE YACO BUSINESS MEETING:

The program will be a beautiful narrated slide presentation of THE FOLK COSTUMES OF CROATIA.

Bring a friend - Meet new ones - See old friends!
Refreshments will be served.





Sponza Palace | Orlando column | The Bell Loggia | The City Tower | The Main Guard | St. Blaise

DUBROVNIK

YUGOSLAV - AMERICAN
CULTURAL ORGANIZATION
P. O. Box 226
Watsonville, CA 95076

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Happy New Year